

U.S. Forest Service Chelan Ranger Station
4124 West Woodin Avenue
Chelan
Chelan County
Washington

HABS No. WA-188

HABS
WASH
4-CHELAN
1

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94102

HABS
WASH
4-CHELAN,
1-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY
U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION

HABS No.WA-188

Location: 428 West Woodin Avenue
Chelan
Chelan County
Washington

U.S.G.S. Chelan Quadrangle (7.5)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
10.722790.5302380

Present Owner: U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Wenatchee National Forest
301 Yakima Street
Wenatchee, Washington 98807-0811

Present Occupant: U.S. Forest Service/National Park Service

Present Use: District Ranger Station

Statement of
Significance: The Chelan Ranger Station is significant for the role it and the U.S. Forest Service have played in the development of the local community and in managing the surrounding public lands. Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the buildings represent the rustic architectural style CCC enrollees produced for the Forest Service during the era of the Great Depression.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: The three buildings comprising the Chelan Ranger Station were constructed circa spring 1940 through circa fall 1941. On 7 March 1940 the *Chelan Valley Mirror* outlined the scope of the proposed project as announced by the U.S. Forest Service:

Tentative plans for a \$15,000. improvement and construction project by the local forest service were revealed this week by Robert Foote, district forest ranger. The plans included an office building and fire warehouse and the dismantling of the present buildings. Foote stated that the forest service had every intention of making this section the most scenic spot in Chelan. (p. 3).

Later that year, in a letter to the Regional Forester in Portland, Oregon, dated 10 October 1940, Forest Supervisor P.T. Harris reported on activities at the site and requested funds to continue work on the Warehouse:

The foundation for the guard dwelling [Annex] and warehouse at Chelan Ranger Station is nearing completion and in order to continue the present program it is requested that we be allotted \$2,000 of CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps] funds to erect the warehouse. (7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station File, Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee).

Reports in the local press during the winter of 1940-1941 refer to two buildings, perhaps the Warehouse and Annex as one structure (they originally stood adjacent to one another) and the Main Office as the other. A report in late February appeared to indicate that the Office was nearly complete, but that filling on the lakeshore site was not:

One of the most extensive projects has been the erection of two forest service buildings. Under construction at the present time is a combination fire warehouse and garage to house forest service equipment. . . . It was designed to be the same type building as the office with Dolly Varden siding. It is planned to complete the fill-in on the lakeshore side of the property with an all-rock riprap edge with a slope of two to one. A top covering of dirt will be hauled in and the entire property will be landscaped.

Robert Foote, district ranger, stated that they planned to move into the office built on the same grounds soon after the first of March, and open house will be held during an afternoon for the benefit of the public. (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 27 February 1941, p. 4).

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 3)

A photograph of the Main Office shows the building was complete by July 1941. (Glass color slide by F.W. Cleator, U.S. Forest Service Photographer, on file at the Chelan Ranger Station). By September of that year, the Warehouse stood nearly finished, but the adjacent Annex still lacked some exterior siding. Chimneys had yet to be installed in either structure. (Black and white photograph by W.W. Gano, September 1941, in "Chelan Ranger Station Warehouse and Guard Dwelling (C) & (B) on site plan," Chelan Ranger Station files).

2. Architect: Not known. Original drawings, dated 1940, were prepared in the office of the Assistant Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service Region Six, Portland, Oregon.

3. Original and Subsequent Owners: The original and current owner of the buildings is the federal government. Although the government now has title to the property, the land upon which the structures stand, consisting of approximately 0.6 acre, was privately owned until 1936. At that time, the legal description of the property was given as:

Beginning at a point on the North side of West Woodin Avenue twenty-four feet east of the east side of Lake Street in Government Lot three of Section 13, Twp. 27, N. Range 22, E.W.M. thence westerly 24 feet to Lake Street, thence northerly along the east side of Lake Street 308 feet to Okanogan Avenue, thence easterly along the south side of Okanogan Avenue 166 feet to West Woodin Avenue, thence southwesterly along the west side of West Woodin Avenue 272 feet 2 inches to the place of beginning together with any and all lands adjacent thereto that may pertain to said described property by reason of said streets having been vacated. (No. 261051 Special Warranty Deed, 1 June 1936, Chelan Ranger Station files).

References to the following Chain of Title pertain to documents included in the Chelan Ranger Station files in the Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee National Forest:

- 1927 Quit Claim Deed, 23 April 1927, the Chelan Electric Company, a subsidiary of the Great Northern Railway Company (GN), to W. Park Smith and Winifred C. Smith, his wife. (The three buildings at the Ranger Station stand on this parcel of land).
- 1928 Quit Claim Deed, 14 February 1928, W. Park Smith and Winifred C. Smith, to the Secretary of Agriculture of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a 40-foot wide strip of land on the northeast edge of the present property. (The original Forest Service warehouse and dock stood on the parcel, which is now part of the parking lot north of the Warehouse).

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 4)

1936 Special Warranty Deed, 1 June 1936, W. Park Smith and Winifred C. Smith, to the Secretary of Agriculture, the property the Smiths had acquired from the Chelan Electric Company in 1927. Sale price to the U.S. government: \$900.

4. Builder, Contractor, Suppliers: On 24 May 1940 the Forest Service Region Six Office in Portland, Oregon, by direction of M.L. Merritt, Assistant Regional Forester, allotted \$2,500 of Operation funds for construction of the Chelan Ranger Station Office. In correspondence of 4 April 1941, Forest Supervisor P.T. Harris acknowledged receipt of \$2,200 of Allotments funds towards completion of the Warehouse and Guard Residence. Merritt then authorized \$600 credit to cover the cost of materials to complete the "layout at the Chelan Ranger Station." (7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

About thirty Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) enrollees provided the labor force for construction of the buildings. Bill McClain served as foreman carpenter for the CCC construction crew. (Simeon Beecher interview with Craig Holstine, Chelan, 5 May 1989). They also fabricated "a good deal of the office furniture . . . of the attractive rustic type made by CCC men." (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 27 February 1941). Regarding the Venetian blinds the CCC enrollees produced for the Main Office windows, Ranger Foote had this to say:

We built 29 blinds at a cost of \$35.00 for hardware, tape and pull cord. We used native red cedar for slats and native Douglas Fir for headers and bottom pieces. It would have cost \$150.00 to buy blinds from the manufacturer, so you can see, other than the CCC labor, we have made a big saving besides giving the boys training in this kind of work. (Letter dated 5 April 1941 to Mr. Piper, 7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

5. Original Plans and Construction: Original plans for the buildings were drawn in 1940 in the office of the Assistant Regional Forester, Region Six Headquarters, Portland, Oregon. The drawings accurately depict the buildings as they presently appear, with but a few inconsistencies. Perhaps the greatest alteration has been the relocation of the Annex (labeled "Residence" on the drawings) from its original site immediately adjacent to the south side of the Warehouse. According to the Assistant Regional Forester, the two structures were placed "close enough together so that they [gave] the general appearance of a single building." (M.L. Merritt, Memorandum dated 1 August 1940, 7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station files). An earlier memorandum explained that the buildings were constructed separately because of "anticipated excessive foundation cost on account of the building limitation." (7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

Work at the site actually began with demolition of an older Forest Service building that stood at the north edge of the property in what is now the parking lot adjacent to the Warehouse. Apparently the Great Northern Railway built the building and a nearby dock for the Forest Service in the late 1920s. Constructed of corrugated sheet metal, the building measured 26 by 44 feet,

and contained four rooms and a toilet on the main floor and a large workroom upstairs. The dock was 271 feet long with a plank deck on cedar pilings. A boat house measuring 18 by 40 feet stood on the dock. (Report on Construction, 15 December 1928, 5420 Purchases, Donations folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

Materials salvaged from the dismantled warehouse were used in constructing the new Warehouse and Annex. As the Forest Supervisor reported on 4 April 1941: "Work is progressing satisfactorily on the warehouse and dwelling, using what materials may be made available by dismantling the existing combination building." (P.T. Harris letter, 7300 Buildings folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

When completed, the exterior walls of the new buildings were painted with Forest Service Standard Light Gray "A" stain, and the roofs and trim painted with Standard Weather Gray "C" stain. The local press commented on the nominal cost of the project, crediting CCC labor with the savings: "Although only \$5,000 was appropriated for this project, CCC labor has been used and the finished product is several times a \$5,000 valuation." (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 27 February 1941, p. 4). Actual expenditures exceeded the \$5,000 figure reported in the press: final cost of the Main Office was \$5,069 and of the Warehouse \$11,580. Cost of the Residence (Annex) is not known. (Historical Record for Buildings, Forms 5650-2, 5420 Purchases, Donations folder, Chelan Ranger Station files).

6. Alterations and Additions: Over the years numerous alterations have been made to all three buildings. One of the first appears to have been to the Warehouse, after Ranger R.E. Foote received permission to move the chimney. "[W]e are working on the chimney now, putting it in the center of the [maintenance/storage room] which will eliminate most of the rock work," Foote reported. (Foote letter dated 19 May 1942, 7300 Buildings folder). His request seems to indicate that the chimney, originally designed to be installed against the south wall, had not ever been built there, hence the opportunity to avoid the costly "rock work" involved in building the chimney high over the eave versus low over the ridge beam.

In April 1943 Forest Supervisor N.J. Penick initiated plans to move the Annex from its close proximity to the Warehouse. Apparently the Supervisor thought that the two buildings standing side by side were not aesthetically pleasing in appearance. "It looked like hell," said a former assistant ranger who shared Penick's opinion. (Beecher interview). Sometime, circa mid 1940s, the Guard Dwelling was moved to its present location between and behind the other two buildings. Although first used as a residence for the District Ranger, the Annex, as it is now known, was extensively remodeled on its interior for use as a fire dispatch office.

In 1951 a second vehicle parking garage was added to the Warehouse. Attached to the west end of the building, the addition was made to look similar to the vehicle bay on the opposite side of the structure. Matching

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 6)

clapboard siding was used on the walls, and two double-hung wood sash windows were salvaged from what had been the exterior west wall and installed in the new rear and side walls. Roll-away doors replaced the original "pull-out" doors in 1968, and the building was rewired that year. (Historical Record for Buildings, Form 5650-2, 5420 Purchases, Donations folder).

Major alteration of the Main Office began in 1969 when the lobby was divided to create more office space. An electric furnace replaced the original oil furnace that year as well. The lobby was further modified in 1973, the offices carpeted in 1975, and metal windows installed to replace the original double-hung wood sash windows in 1978. (Historical Record for Buildings, Form 5650-2, 5420 Purchases, Donations folder).

B. Historical Context: The U.S. Forest Service Chelan Ranger Station occupies beach frontage on the south end of Lake Chelan, a large body of water lying amidst the foothills of the Cascade Mountains in north central Washington. The station stands within the town of Chelan, which was established in the late nineteenth century. Gold and copper mines in the mountains surrounding the lake, along with a burgeoning tourist trade, brought early growth to the town. Later diversified farming, primarily fruit growing with abundant irrigation, spurred further development. Today lumbering, livestock production, mining, and recreation contribute to the area's livelihood. Chelan has become the principal trade and tourist center serving the lake and its vicinity.

The town, county, and nearby geographic features, including the river, falls, and mountains, are named for Lake Chelan, which the Indians called Tsill-anne, meaning "deep water." (Robert Hitchman, *Place Names of Washington*, p. 44). Fed by mountain streams and glaciers, the lake is sixty-eight miles long and from one to three miles in width. Beginning at the town of Chelan, the river of the same name falls 376 feet to the Columbia River three miles to the east. But the visitor's gaze from the town is inevitably fixed up the lake to the breathtaking view of the mountains. "Truly it is an enchanted region, winter or summer," noted an anonymous observer near the turn of the century. (*An Illustrated History*, 1904, p. 687).

Management of the "enchanted" forests eventually fell to the U.S. Forest Service, in which the Chelan Ranger Station serves as a District facility in the Wenatchee National Forest. National forests evolved from earlier "forest reserves" set aside from the public domain under provisions of the Forest Reserve Act of 1891. On 22 February 1897 President Grover Cleveland signed the "Washington's Birthday reserves" Proclamation which created thirteen forest reserves in the western states. The present Wenatchee National Forest was included in one of withdrawn areas known as the Washington Forest Reserve. That reserve covered both sides of the Cascade Mountains and what are now portions of the Okanogan, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, and the Wenatchee national forests. (P.T. Harris and Mark DeLeon unpublished ms. forest histories, 1939 and 1989, respectively).

In 1907 the forest reserves officially became national forests. About that time three districts were formed for the Chelan National Forest, with one district

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 7)

headquartered at Chelan. District-level administration was needed to manage the various activities occupying rangers' time, as outlined by the Supervisor of the Chelan National Forest:

sales of timber [were] made to local mills, range resources made available and more closely supervised, permits issued for summer residences, resorts, fences, ditches and other special uses, homestead and other claims examined, trespass controlled, trails, buildings, phone lines, lookout houses and other structures built, and organization for fire control established. (P.T. Harris ms.).

As the account implies, despite long hours spent deep in the woods, forest rangers were highly visible public employees interacting with the public in virtually every task of forest management. In fact, the decision to locate a ranger station in the town of Chelan, rather than in an isolated location closer to the forests, was motivated in part by a Forest Service policy to cultivate public goodwill. When it was decided to enlarge the small station at the foot of the lake in the 1930s, the Assistant Regional Forester addressed those concerns:

The plan [for the Chelan Ranger Station] shows an eventual development of the shoreline for bathing purposes with parking facilities and a promenade walk designed adjacent to the highway The elements of this plan therefore represent utilization of the present administrative site for valuable public contact purposes as well as incorporating recreation use. (Correspondence dated 2 April 1938, 5420 Purchases, Donations folder).

In 1927 the Forest Service acquired a forty-foot strip of land now covered by the parking lot adjacent to the Warehouse. As part of a cooperative agreement, the Great Northern Railway constructed a sheet metal building and dock at the site for the Forest Service. The building was used as an office, warehouse, and garage, and rangers and other Forest employees took boats up the lake to their duty stations. A downtown building served as the District Ranger's headquarters. Expansion of the lakeside site, and location of a new office, residence, and warehouse there, were moves designed both to improve efficiency as well as to maintain public exposure. (Beecher interview).

When the Forest Supervisor received authorization to proceed with the planned expansion, he had a ready workforce in place. In 1933 a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp had been established at Twenty-five Mile Creek, located approximately fifteen miles up the lake. About thirty enrollees from the main camp set up a side or temporary camp a short distance from the Ranger Station and started work on the site. (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 11 April 1940, p. 5). The present point of land on which the station buildings stand is an artificial landform consisting of fill dirt hauled in from a pit near the top of the road leading from town to Chelan Falls. Two dump trucks and a motorized shovel piled dirt and rocks that the CCC men spread with muscles and shovels. Prior to final leveling

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 8)

of the fill, a drainage trench was dug and refilled with boulders to drain off excess water from the site. (Beecher interview).

A sea wall of rocks was built to hold back high waves on the lakeshore. Two feet thick at its below-ground base and sixteen inches thick at its top, the parapet wall was built with a two-to-one gradient slope and topped with four-inch tiles. (Drawing "Entrance Sign and Parapet Wall," by E.U. Blanchfield, 19 April 1940, North Technical Center, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee). Irrigation of the grounds produced sink holes in the lawns around the buildings, and contributed to erosion in the sea wall. In 1983 a maintenance project designed to bring the site into compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act resulted in replacement of the wall with riprap. Large rocks were hauled in from road cuts along Highway 97 near the Chelan Airport and lower Johnson Creek in Navarre Coulee. Total cost of the project was \$6,295. ("Yearly Ground Maintenance Plan," in files maintained at the Chelan Ranger Station).

The CCC proved valuable not only to the development of the Ranger Station but to the Forest Service's abilities to cater to public interests. For example, in 1940 seventy CCC enrollees, under Forest Service supervision, began work on a ski course at Baldy Creek thirteen miles from Chelan. Funding for the ski lift came as a result of a government appropriation requested by the Lake Chelan Sportsmen Association. When the side camp had been established near town for the purpose of housing men working on the Ranger Station, the Chelan Chamber of Commerce sought assurance from Congress that the camp would be maintained. Clearly the CCC played a vital role in local economic development. (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 15 February 1940, p. 1 and 11 April 1940, p. 5).

Because of the Chelan Ranger Station's location at the foot of an extremely large lake, with very limited vehicular access, the Forest Service was particularly dependent on boat transportation. During the CCC era, for example, Forest Service boats made regular supply trips to CCC side camps at Lucerne and Stehekin. In the fall of 1939, one of the boats, the *Lookout*, caught fire and burned as it proceeded up the lake with supplies. Although the boat was completely destroyed, all aboard survived and were rescued by another Forest Service boat, the *Forester*. (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 26 October 1939).

Three years later the *Forester* transported spectators up the lake on the annual public outing sponsored by the Chelan Ranger Station, an event described in the local press:

Representatives of local service clubs were guests on the annual game count boat trip to the head of Lake Chelan conducted by the forest service under the supervision of R.E. Foote, district ranger

The group left 25-Mile Creek Sunday morning at 8:00 o'clock in the "Forester," a boat operated on the lake by the forest service.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHELAN RANGER STATION
HABS No. WA-188 (Page 9)

Game was plentiful with more than 250 deer counted during the day, 75 goats, one coyote and one eagle, it was reported.

The boat stopped at the ranger station at Prince Creek where the men inspected the station which had been designed, built and equipped with furniture by CCC boys

The next stop was at Lucerne where Bill Shambaugh, ranger for the Stehekin district, joined the party which continued on to the head of the lake (*Chelan Valley Mirror*, 6 February 1941, p. 1).

Forest Service activities administered from the Chelan Ranger Station have obviously affected life in the surrounding community to a considerable extent. Since the buildings at the site were constructed nearly fifty years ago, the Chelan Ranger District has undergone numerous administrative adjustments, including assignment (in 1955) from the old Chelan National Forest to a new jurisdiction, that of the Wenatchee National Forest. The role of the Forest Service itself has changed somewhat: rangers no longer lead public excursions on Forest Service boats, for instance. With increased timber harvests and more intense use of public lands for recreational purposes, the role of the Forest Service has become even more entwined in the lives of citizens of the immediate vicinity, and the thousands who flock to Lake Chelan to enjoy boating, swimming, skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, and sightseeing. Now more than ever the Chelan Ranger Station is a focal point of public activity and attention.

Like the Forest Service and the public it serves, the buildings at the Chelan Ranger Station have changed over the years. Although the Main Office was designed to house the District Ranger, none ever lived in it as originally planned. The bedroom was converted to office space, as were the rooms in the Annex after the structure was moved to its present location. That building did house Ranger Robert E. Foote for a time; another ranger and his wife lived there, but not for long. A major addition to the Warehouse enlarged its floor space and capabilities. But overall the buildings retain their structural integrity and stand as representative examples of the rustic architectural style built by the CCC for the U.S. Forest Service during the era of the Great Depression.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Main Office (Building #2041):

A. General Statement:

1. **Architectural Character:** Although minor modifications are apparent on the building's exterior, the simple frame structure retains essential character-defining features. Wood and stone predominate on the front facade,

emphasizing the facility's association with, and close proximity to, the nearby forested mountains. The "Pine Tree" silhouette positioned prominently over the front entry identifies the building as a U.S. Forest Service station constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Perhaps more than any other single feature, the silhouette provides a temporal, thematic symbol of the ranger station's significance. (See Photographs WA-188-A-1-15).

2. Condition of Fabric: The overall condition of the building is excellent. For the most part, original materials have been retained.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: Measuring 53 feet by 43 feet 6 inches, the Main Office is a single story structure comprised of a central mass oriented front-to-rear, with wings extending to either side. Although not apparent from the front facade, rooms of varying sizes produce irregular, asymmetrical walls on the side wings. A roof gable centered over the front entry, which is also centered on the front facade, provides an overall appearance of symmetry, however. There is no basement beneath the building. (See Photograph WA-188-A-14).

2. Foundation: The structure stands atop a 7 inch-thick concrete foundation.

3. Walls: Retention of the building's original horizontal clapboard siding provides the Main Office with the majority of its historical character. The siding consists of 1 by 12 inch clapboard, with 10 inches exposed to weather. Vertical boards with decorative battens cover the front and side gables. (See Photographs WA-188-A-12-13).

4. Structural Systems, Framing: Lying upon the concrete foundation are 2 by 10 inch floor joists spaced 16 inches apart. Walls are comprised of board sheathing nailed to 2 by 4 inch studs spaced 16 inches apart. Two by 6 inch ceiling joists installed 16 inches apart support 2 by 6 inch rafters and ties, and the 2 by 8 inch ridge beam. (See Photographs WA-188-A-14-15).

5. Porches: The front porch dominates the building's front facade. The deck is comprised of native stone raised slightly above the concrete walkway. Six rough-sawn 12 by 12 inch posts support beams of equal size under the gabled awning. Arching rough-sawn brackets of equal dimension are attached with 5/8 inch steel bolts to the upper portions of the posts abutting the horizontal beams. Wooden plugs set in waterproof glue cover the bolts, lending additional decorative rustic features. (See Photograph WA-188-A-15). Two stone steps resting atop a concrete slab provide access to a door and hallway on the office's north side, the only other exit from the building.

6. Chimney: Native stone facing covers the short stack of the building's only chimney, which is constructed of brick. The chimney rises from near the center of the structure, offset slightly to the north of the main roof ridge. (See Photograph WA-188-A-9).

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: The main entryway is centered on the front porch, where the original wooden door with nine lights has been retained. Recessed within a small covered hallway is the building's only other exterior door, located on the north side. It too is wooden and appears original.

b. Windows: All original wood sash windows have been replaced with sliding metal windows. Two windows on the front porch have been boarded over and covered with a cork material for use as a bulletin board. Wood sills have been retained.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, Covering: The roof is cross gable, with small shed roof extensions on both the north and south sides. Wood shingles of recent vintage covers the roof.

b. Eaves: The eaves are boxed and nearly flush with the walls.

C. Description of the Interior:

1. Floor Plans: While the shape of the building has remained unchanged, the floor plan has been modified somewhat, most noticeably in the public lobby inside the main entrance. An added wall divides the space approximately in half, creating a new so-called "Computer Room." The larger open office area behind the wall separating the lobby from the inner spaces of the station has also been divided. A wall added across the southwest corner of that area created a new office now used by the District Ranger. A second bathroom has been added in the southeast corner of the building in what was a bedroom. Offices in the northwest and northeast corners of the structure are unchanged in size.

Dimensions of the rooms are as follows: Lobby: 10 by 20 feet. Large office behind the lobby: 15 feet 6 inches by 19 feet. District Ranger's Office: 12 feet by 14 feet 3 inches. Northwest corner office: 10 feet 6 inches by 12 feet. Northeast corner office: 10 feet 6 inches by 15 feet 6 inches. Computer Room: 8 by 14 feet. Bathrooms: 6 by 7 feet.

2. Flooring: The floors are all carpeted, with the exception of the halls and the new bath, which are covered in modern linoleum.

3. Wall and Ceiling Finish: The walls and wood trim are original, with the exception of the sheet rock walls dividing the new rooms described above. Modern paneling has been added on top of the original counter dividing the lobby from the office space to the rear, and in the District Ranger's office. Plywood walls were used to construct the new bathroom. Modern acoustic

ceilings have been installed throughout the interior, with the exception of the hallways and bathrooms, which have original wood or plywood ceilings.

4. Doorways and Doors: Interior doorways retain their original wood casing and wood doors. Modern wood doors have been installed in the new rooms.

5. Decorative Features: Original built-in wood cabinets with a hinged wood door and wood drawers and handles have been retained in the wall between the lobby and the rear office space. An original opening between the two areas has been closed, and modern shelving added. A wood sliding door appears to have been added over what were drawers and paneled hinged doors. (See Photographs WA-188-A-10 and 15).

6. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating and Air Conditioning: An electric furnace replaced the original oil furnace in 1969. A heat pump/air condition unit was installed off the northwest wall in 1978.

b. Lighting: Modern fluorescent lighting has been installed throughout the building.

D. Site:

1. General Setting and Orientation: As the centerpiece and most important building on the site, the Main Office stands closest to, and facing, the street to the east. It is situated to be the most visible and accessible to the public. Most office spaces are provided ample window openings allowing for spectacular views up Chelan Lake to the west, and of the forested mountains managed by the Forest Service from this ranger station.

2. Historic Landscape Design: Although one building (the Annex) has been moved from its original location, the historic landscape design has been retained. Trees and shrubs are planted to enhance the natural beauty of the setting without obstructing views up the lake from the Main Office. Concrete walkways connecting the buildings have been modified only to the extent needed to accommodate relocation of the Annex. The original native stone and mortar approach to the front porch was replaced with concrete when the sidewalk along the street was improved in 1985.

3. Outbuildings: The Warehouse is the more significant of the other two buildings on the site. Discussion of it and the Annex follow below.

Warehouse (Building #2214)

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: Like the nearby Main Office, the Warehouse displays the rustic qualities achieved through use and retention of wood and stone. The famous "Pine Tree" silhouette adorns its street-facing gable, identifying it as a CCC Forest Service project. Despite an addition on its west (lakeside) end, the building clearly represents a type, period, and method of construction from whence is derived its significance. (See Photographs WA-188-B-1-5).

2. Condition of Fabric: The building's condition is excellent. To an even greater degree than in the Main Office, original materials have been retained on the exterior of the Warehouse.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The original structure measured 59 feet by 47 feet. The west end vehicle parking garage added 27 feet 10 inches by 22 feet 3 inches to the building. With the addition, the Warehouse is now comprised of three bays: vehicle parking/storage on either side of a central working area. The structure is single story, with a half basement.

2. Foundation: The Warehouse stands atop a 7 inch-thick concrete foundation.

3. Walls: Sawn lumber 1 by 12 inch clapboard siding, with 10 inches exposed to weather, covers the exterior walls. Vertical boards interspersed with battens cover the gables. One "Pine Tree" silhouette is cut in the center of the street-facing gable. (See Photographs WA-188-B-1-5).

4. Structural Systems, Framing: The main floor of the Warehouse is 3 feet above ground level. In the central work/storage area, 10 by 12 inch wood beams resting upon 14 by 14 inch concrete piers support the floor, which consists of 2 by 10 inch joists under 2 by 6 inch planks. Similar flooring is used on the loading dock in the vehicle garage in the building's east bay. Concrete floors are in both vehicle garage bays, in the fuel storage room, and in the basement. Exterior wall studding consists of 10 by 10 inch posts placed 10 feet apart, and 2 by 6 inch studs placed 16 apart, while interior walls are supported by 2 by 4 inch studs placed 16 inches apart. Ceiling joists and rafters vary in sizes, including 2 by 6 inch, 2 by 8 inch, 3 by 6 inch, and 3 by 8 inch boards. Ties in the roof framing are 2 by 6 inch boards placed 32 inches apart. (See Photographs WA-188-B-10-13).

5. Porches, Docks: A native stone landing rests upon a concrete slab outside the southside door to the Warehouse. The landing originally lay between the Warehouse and the front door of the Annex, which was later moved to its present location. On the north side of the Warehouse, a concrete loading dock

measuring 22 by 6 feet stands 3 feet 6 inches high above the level of the parking lot. The dock originally had a floor consisting of 2 by 6 inch planks, but was replaced with poured concrete in 1960. (See Photograph WA-188-B-13).

6. Chimney: Situated on the ridge beam near the center of what was the original portion of the Warehouse, the uncoursed, native stone-faced chimney is not the chimney appearing on the 1940 construction drawings. (See Photographs WA-188-B-10-11). That chimney was considerably higher and rose above the south wall rather than at the ridge beam.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: The most prominent openings are the wood panel roll-away vehicle doors in the east and west bays of the Warehouse's north facade. Originally two "swing up" doors were installed in the older east bay. (See Photograph WA-188-B-10). Two other doors on the north facade are situated between the garages, and both are sliding wood doors: the door to the fuel storage room adjacent to the east bay garage slides on an exterior mount, while a larger door with 6 lights slides on an interior rail off the concrete loading platform. There are two other single doors in the building, both hinged, wooden, and on the south facade: one providing pedestrian entrance to the east bay, the other entering the west bay addition. (See Photographs WA-188-B-1, 3 and 4).

b. Windows: All 8 over 8 and 6 over 6 light, double-hung wood sash windows have been retained in the Warehouse, including two from the west wall which were installed in the west bay addition. Two modern sliding metal windows were also installed in the addition. (See Photographs WA-188-B-1-4).

8. Roof:

a. Shape, Covering: The roof is cross gable with wood shingles.

b. Eaves: Eaves are boxed and nearly flush with the walls.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans: The layout of the Warehouse provides for vehicle parking bays flanking a central maintenance/storage area, with basement beneath the latter. Within the east bay is an unloading dock measuring 16 by 33 feet, with two storage rooms along the east wall. The vehicle parking space within the bay measures 22 by 30 feet. The central maintenance/storage room measures 22 by 41 feet, while the west end vehicle bay measures 22 by 28 feet. The fuel storage room measures 7 feet 9 inches by 16 feet 6 inches. The basement storage area measures 22 by 41 feet.

2. Stairways: A 14-step wooden stairway provides access to the basement along the south wall of the maintenance/storage room. There is a hinged wooden stairway with metal handrails that can be lowered from the storage loft above the maintenance/storage room.

3. Flooring: Plywood covers original wood plank flooring in the maintenance/storage room and on the loading dock in the east bay garage. Planking comprises the floor in the storage loft as well. There are concrete floors in both vehicle parking stalls in both side bays, on the loading platform, and in the basement.

4. Wall and Ceiling Finish: Interior walls consist of unfinished flush boards, some painted and some unpainted. Open studs and plywood serve as walls for an office built into the west end vehicle garage. Exposed planking, support beams, and floor joists under the storage loft make up the ceilings. Outer walls of the basement are concrete.

5. Doorways and Doors: The few doors on the interior of the Warehouse are original wood doors. There are doors in the east bay storage rooms, the entrance in the east bay to the fuel storage room, the toilet on the east bay loading dock, and at the entrance to the basement storage room. Sliding doors cover the opening between the maintenance/storage room and the east bay loading dock.

6. Decorative/Functional Features: Original built-in wooden cabinets with hinged doors line the lower walls of the maintenance/storage room. Also in the room are what appear to be original shovel and canteen racks, a metal sink, work benches, table saws and other machinery. Wooden shelving exists in the basement, fuel room, and east bay storage rooms, and wooden cabinets stand in the east bay storage rooms and loading dock.

7. Mechanical Equipment:

a. Heating: The Warehouse is heated by a single wood stove located in the maintenance/storage room. The stove stands on a brick base in front of the brick chimney.

b. Lighting: Fluorescent lights have been installed in the maintenance/storage room. Original incandescent bulb fixtures have been retained throughout the rest of the building.

D. Site:

1. General Setting and Orientation: The main facade of the Warehouse containing the two vehicle parking bays, the loading platform, and entrances to the maintenance/storage room and fuel storage room, faces to the north into the parking lot. This orientation facilitates convenient access to and from vehicles using the lot.

Annex (Building #1315)

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: The Annex is the smallest building on the site and has retained the least amount of its historical character. Originally located adjacent to the south facade of the Warehouse, the Annex was built to serve as an employee's residence, and is labeled as such on original drawings. (See Photographs WA-188-B-10, 11, and 13, and WA-188-C-4). When the building was moved, the front entryway was oriented to face west toward the lake, thus becoming the rear entry, and a new front door was cut into what had been the rear wall. A gabled awning was then extended over the new front entryway. Replacement of original windows and nearly complete modification of the interior further compromised the Annex. Nevertheless the structure is representative of the type, period, and method of construction present on the site, as well as the developmental history of the ranger station.

2. Condition of Fabric: The building's condition is excellent.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The Annex is rectangular in shape, measuring 23 feet 6 inches by 25 feet. It is one story and has no basement.

2. Foundation: The Annex stands on a concrete foundation.

3. Walls: The Annex retains its original clapboard siding, the boards being 1 by 12 inches with 10 inches exposed to weather. Vertical boards and battens cover the gables, with "Pine Tree" silhouettes cut into the centers of the front (east) gable and gable awning over the front entryway. The silhouettes appear to have been cut later than those on the Main Office and Warehouse, however, as their shapes are somewhat different.

4. Structural Systems, Framing: The floor of the Annex is supported by 2 by 10 inch joists spaced 16 inches apart. Walls consist of plywood nailed to 2 by 4 studs placed 16 inches apart. Ceiling joists are 2 by 6 inch boards spaced 16 inches apart. Rafters consist of 2 by 4s placed 16 inches apart, with 1 by 6 inch ties nailed to every other rafter. The ridge board is a 2 by 6.

5. Porches: Concrete slabs and single steps are used for both front and rear entryway landings. A gabled awning covers the front entry, but the rear is uncovered.

6. Chimney: The original native stone chimney has been removed. There is now no chimney in the Annex.

7. Openings:

a. Doorways and Doors: There are two exterior doors in the Annex: the rear door is the original wood door with 9 lights, while the front door is a more modern wooden door.

b. Windows: Sliding metal windows replaced all the original wood sash windows, with the exception of the upper half of one double hung sash window on the north wall. An air conditioner is mounted in the lower half of the window. (See Photograph WA-188-C-2).

8. Roof:

a. Shape, Covering: The gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

b. Eaves: Eaves are boxed and nearly flush with the walls.

Description of the Interior:

1. Floor Plan: The present floor plan is considerably changed from the original. The kitchen, where the original front door entered, and the adjacent living room have been opened into a single room by removal of the wall and door separating the two. The resulting space is the largest room in the building, measuring 12 feet 9 inches by 25 feet. The present front door enters what was the bedroom, measuring 10 feet 9 inches by 11 feet 9 inches, and the door connecting it with the living room has been closed with a modern panelled wall. The bath, which measures 6 feet 10 inches by 9 feet 3 inches, is still a bath and is little changed.

2. Flooring: The floors in the Annex are linoleum covered.

3. Wall and Ceiling Finishes: Original plywood walls remain in portions of the bedroom and the bath. Modern wood panelling has been installed in the living room/kitchen on the east and south walls, and on the lower portion of the north wall. Acoustic ceilings have been installed throughout the Annex, except in the bath, which retains its original wood ceiling.

4. Doorways and Doors: Two original wood doors have been retained on the interior: the door between the bedroom and the hallway leading to the bath, and the bathroom door. As noted above, one original doorway has been closed, and another removed along with a wall.

5. Decorative Features: "Pine Tree" silhouettes adorn both the front gable and the gabled awning over the front entryway. As noted above, they do not match exactly the other silhouettes on the Main Office and Warehouse, and are presumed to have been cut into the gables when the building was moved and not crafted by the CCC workers when the buildings were built.

6. Mechanical Equipment:

a. **Heating and Air Conditioning:** The building is heated electrically and cooled by a window-mounted electric air conditioner.

b. **Lighting:** Fluorescent lights have been installed throughout the building. Two original incandescent bulb fixtures remain in the bath and in the hallway outside the bathroom door.

D. Site

1. **General Setting and Orientation:** As noted above, when the Annex was moved its orientation changed. What was the north wall now faces west. Its front facade, which was originally the rear wall facing south, now faces east toward the street.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. **Architectural Drawings:** Various original elevation, floor plan, and construction detail drawings, dated 1940, originating in the office of the Assistant Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service Region Six, Portland, Oregon. A limited number of drawings dating subsequent to original construction are also available. On file in the North Technical Center, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee, Washington.

B. **Historic Views:** A glass color slide of the Main Office, shortly after completion, with Ranger Robert E. Foote. F. W. Cleator, photographer, July 1941. On file at the Chelan Ranger Station, Chelan, Washington.

A black and white photograph (3.5 by 5.5 inches) of the Warehouse and Annex (the latter in its original location before being moved) prior to completion. W.W. Gano, photographer, 1941. On file at the Chelan Ranger Station, Chelan, Washington.

C. **Interview:** Simeon Beecher, retired fire lookout, dispatcher, and assistant ranger on the Chelan (now Wenatchee) National Forest. Interview with Craig Holstine, May 1989, Chelan, Washington.

D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Inactive administrative files, Chelan Ranger Station, 1927-1955. Approximately one-third cubic foot, including reports, correspondence, site maps, etc. On file Supervisor's Office, Wenatchee National Forest, Wenatchee, Washington.

2. Secondary and published sources:

Anonymous. *An Illustrated History of Stevens, Ferry, Okanogan and Chelan Counties, State of Washington*. Western Historical Publishing Company, 1904.

Chelan (Washington) Valley Mirror. Various issues, 1939-1942.

DeLeon, Mark. Chronology of the Okanogan National Forest. Unpublished ms., February 1989. On file, Supervisor's Office, Okanogan National Forest, Okanogan, Washington.

Harris, P.T. Historical Summary, Chelan National Forest. Unpublished ms., 11 March 1939. On file, Supervisor's Office, Okanogan National Forest, Okanogan, Washington.

Hitchman, Robert. *Place Names of Washington*. Tacoma: Washington State Historical Society, 1985.

Throop, Elizabeth Gail. "Utterly Visionary and Chimerical: A Federal Response to the Depression; An Examination of Civilian Conservation Corps Construction on the National Forest System Lands in the Pacific Northwest." Unpublished masters thesis. Portland, Oregon: Portland State University, 1979.

E. Likely Sources Not Yet Investigated:

Records of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Record Group 35. The National Archives, Civil Reference Branch (NNRC), Washington, D.C.

Various informants in the Chelan and Wenatchee vicinities.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This document is a mitigative recording required by a Memorandum of Agreement entered into in December 1989 by the U.S. Forest Service, Wenatchee National Forest, the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Susan H. Marvin, Forest Archaeologist, Wenatchee National Forest, supervised completion of the documentation. Three employees of Archaeological and Historical Services, Eastern Washington University, were involved in documenting the Ranger Station: Craig Holstine and Robin Bruce conducted historical research, Craig Holstine provided architectural evaluation and description, and Harvey S. Rice took the archival photographs. The photographs were taken and the architectural information gathered in May 1989.

Prepared by: Craig Holstine and Robin Bruce
Titles: Historians
Affiliation: Archaeological and Historical Services, Eastern Washington University,
Cheney, Washington
Date: January 1990

